

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AID-05 SP-02 EB-04 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-01

SIL-01 L-01 H-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /075 R

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AFR/CWR-MR. SHEAR (DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ECIN

SUBJECT: CEAO REQUEST FOR USG ASSISTANCE

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REF: A) STATE 206231, H) OUAGADOUGOU 2060, C) NIAMEY 3198

D) LONDON 12290, E) LAGOS 8877, F) DAKAR 5284, G) ABIDJAN
7680

1. AFTER REVIEWING RESPONSES REFTEL A, DEPARTMENT AND AF/W REMAIN CONCERNED THAT USG ASSISTANCE TO CEAO SECRETARIAT AT THIS TIME COULD EXPOSE USG TO CHARGES OF INTERFERENCE IN WEST AFRICAN REGIONAL AFFAIRS BY NIGERIA AND OTHER AREA STATES HOSTILE OR LUKEWARM IN THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD CEAO. PRECEDENTS CITED BY EMBASSY ABIDJAN DO NOT APPEAR RELEVANT TO CEAO, BECAUSE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PAIRED REFTEL G GENERALLY WERE NOT VIEWED BY AFRICANS AS DIRECT COMPETITORS FOR SAME ROLES.

2. USG STRONGLY SUPPORTS CONCEPT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN WEST AFRICA. SUCH COOPERATION ESSENTIAL FOR LONG TERM SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS OF SAHEL, AS WELL AS FOR ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER STATES IN AREA. WHILE DEPARTMENT AND AID/W FEEL LACK OF BROADER AREA CONSENSUS FAVORING CEAO MAY MAKE USG ASSISTANCE UNWISE IN NEAR FUTURE, WE WOULD NOT LIKE PRECLUDE SUCH ASSISTANCE IN LONGER TERM IF STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY AFFECTED STATES. DAP TEAMS ARE EXPECTED COMMENT ON THIS POSSIBILITY IN THEIR REPORTS.

3. NOT VERY CLEAR IN WASHINGTON WHAT FUNCTIONS MEMBER STATES PLAN ASSIGN CEAO, AND HOW CEAO IS TO RELATE TO EXISTING REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND TRADING GROUPS. HOPEFULLY, ANTICIPATED CEAO SUMMIT WILL PROVIDE SOME CLARIFICATION. OBVIOUSLY WE WILL WANT AVOID DUPLICATION OF TYPE WHICH APPEARS EVIDENT IN PROPOSED LIVESTOCK AND CEREALS PROGRAMS.

4. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU SHOULD INFORM CEAO SECRETARIAT THAT USG IS UNDERTAKING AN EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF ITS FUTURE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN WEST AFRICA, DURING THE COURSE OF WHICH AID OFFICIALS HOPE TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH CEAO SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS IN OUAGADOUGOU. PENDING OUTCOME THAT REVIEW, AND FURTHER CLARIFICATION CEAO'S PROPOSED ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT, USG MUST POSTPONE DEFINITIVE RESPONSE
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SECRETARIAT'S ASSISTANCE REQUESTS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE229897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKBISHOP:BA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740298-0174
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741034/aaaabcwv.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 206231, H) OUAGADOUGOU 2060, , C) NIAMEY 3198
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEAO REQUEST FOR USG ASSISTANCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: EAID, ECIN
To: OUAGADOUGOU
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005